

Project Graduation

*"We will maintain standards and
walk the extra mile with our students."*

Governor Mark R. Warner



Summary of Promising Practices Implemented by Virginia School Divisions

Governor Warner has pledged to walk the extra mile with Virginia students in their effort to obtain a high school diploma. School divisions across Virginia have joined the Governor in that walk by providing programs to assist students in earning their diploma. In January 2004, the Virginia Department of Education completed a survey to identify promising practices being implemented by Virginia school divisions. The results of this survey are provided to assist school divisions as they continue developing programs to meet the needs of their students. The division contact information has been provided for the assistance of school divisions seeking information on innovative programs:

Strategy	Division	Contact	Phone/e-mail
SOL Blitz – three days of remedial instruction prior to summer administration	Augusta County	Elaine Almarode	540-245-5119 efalmarode@augusta.k12.va.us
SOL Quick Review during the summer and in night school for students who have earned the standard credit but need the verified credit	Chesapeake City	James D. Rayfield	757-547-1346 rayfiji@cps.k12.va.us
Double block, no fail algebra and geometry (Students are taught, assessed, taught again.)	Hampton City	Johnny Pauls	757-727-2006 jpauls@sbo.hampton.k12.va.us
Transition Team in all high schools to assist identified incoming ninth graders. These students are taught by the same core academic teachers and are monitored regularly.	Loudoun County	Fred S. Evans	703-771-6545 fevans@loudoun.k12.va.us
English 11 Audit Class for seniors needing the verified credit in English	Montgomery County	Katherine M. Rodgers	540-382-5107 dunderwood@mcps.org

Strategy Double blocking mathematics and English/Reading for students who failed 8 th grade SOL.	Division Prince William County	Contact Cheryl M. Hiett	Phone/e-mail 703-791-7257 hiettem@pwcs.edu
Recovery Class using teachers along with itinerant remedial specialist	Scott County	Danny Dixon	276-386-6118 danny@mounet.com
Study Skills classes – students who need verified classes are enrolled in credit-bearing classes to improve study skills. The majority of the time is spent working on areas for specific verified credit needs	Wythe County	Gary M. Houseman	276-228-5411 ghouse@wythe.k12.va.us

An important component of assisting students in their journey to graduation is establishing ongoing communication with students and their parents. The following is a list of strategies Virginia divisions are using to keep parents and students informed.

Strategy	Division	Contact	Phone/e-mail
Certified/registered letters to parents indicating students' progress toward graduation.	Alexandria City	Margaret Walsh	703 824 1531 mwalsh@acps.k12.va.us
	Gloucester County	Jean King	804-693-2526 jking@gc.k12.va.us
	Hanover County	Glenith Whitaker	804-365-4547 gwhitaker@hanoer.k12.va.us
	Orange County	Alexis Smith	540-661-4550 lexsmith@lycos.com
	Accomack County	Mark Nowak	757-787-5754 mnowak@sbo.accomack.k12.va.us
Local media – newspapers, radio spots	Appomattox County	Janice M. Marston	434-352-8251 jimmarston@appomattox.k12.va.us

Strategy	Division	Contact	Phone/e-mail
SOL information night	Bedford County	Dr. Bobbi F. Johnson	540-586-1045 bjohnson@bedford.k12.va.us
Director of Instruction and Division Superintendent contact students' parents via telephone and/or letter	Buckingham County	Deborah Cooper	434-969-6100 ext.102 dcooper@bchs.k12.va.us
SOL verified credit letters customized for each student are sent three times during the year. The letter includes dates of remediation offered after school.	Chesapeake City	James D. Rayfield	757-547-1134 rayfiji@cps.k12.va.us
Letters are mailed in language appropriate to students' parents/guardians	Fairfax County	Lillian Garrity	703 209-7857 Lillian.Garrity@fcps.edu
Meetings held in August with parents of seniors at risk of not graduating to discuss options and strategies for success	Fauquier County	Sandra P. Mitchell	540-351-1006 smitchell@fcps1.org
Students and parents are required to sign a verified credit form indicating student's status, future testing plan, and remediation program.	Franklin City	Rebecca V. Gillette	757-569-8111X5601 rgillette@ci.franklin.va.us
	King William County	Rebecca Gates	804 769-3434 ext. 508 rgates@kwcps.k12.va.us
	Lancaster County	Lara M. Brown	804-462-5177 lmills@lcs.k12.va.us
Evening Forums to inform parents of graduation opportunities	Greensville County	Phillip Worrell	434-634-3748 pworrell@greensville.k12.va.us
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and the Division Director of Testing meet with parents to provide information on graduation requirements	Henry County	DeWitt House	276-634-4764 dhouse@henry.k12.va.us
County-wide SOL fair conducted to inform parents of graduation requirements and programs to assist students	Loudoun County	Fred S. Evans	703-771-6545 fevans@loudoun.k12.va.us

Strategy	Division	Contact	Phone/e-mail
Parent resource center	Southampton County	Dr. M. Timothy Kelly	757-653-2692 mtkelly@pen.k12.va.us
Home visits	Virginia Beach City	Dr. Bernard Oliver	757-427-4571 beoliver@vbcp.k12.va.us
Superintendent called parents of students not participating in remediation programs	Chesterfield County	Donna Dalton	804 560-9196 Donna_Dalton@ccps.net

For further information on programs being implemented across Virginia, contact Colleen C. Bryant (cbryant@mail.vak12ed.edu), history and social science specialist, at (804) 786-4640.